

REMARKS

Applicant has amended the specification, canceled claims 3-9 and 11, amended claims 1-2 and 10, and added new claims 12-15. New claims 12-15 respectively represent now canceled claims 4-6 and 9 in independent form, which were stated to be allowable. Accordingly, only claims 1-2, 10 and 12-15 remain in the application of which only claims 12-15 were stated to be allowable.

In rewriting claim 9 in independent form as new claim 15, applicant has deleted material that was not related to the features of claim 9 that made claim 9 allowable.

Enclosed is a drawing sheet containing Figs. 4 and 6 with requested changes shown in red ink. Also enclosed are 5 sheets of formal drawings that include the changes.

Claim 1, which was rejected on Katoh (6,200,174) has been amended to more clearly emphasize the novel feature. This novel feature is that the bottom of the narrow groove part (with wings 106, 108 in Fig. 8) is offset a distance (A) from the bottom of the wide groove part (with wings 96, 98). This minimizes bending of the bared conductor. Katoh's Fig. 2 shows that his narrow groove part 3 has a bottom that is not offset from the bottom of his wide groove part (2).

Claim 2, which depends from claim 1 has been amended. Claim 2 describes the contact mating end (70, Fig. 6) forming a resilient end beam (120) with a beam middle (124) and free beam outer portion (150). The beam middle (124) is straight and extends from the passage (38) beyond the frame front face (22) at an angle (B) of about 20°, and with the free beam outer end extending back into the passage.

Katoh's Fig. 6 shows a contact rising portion 6 that extends at an angle of 70° to his frame front face, rather than a beam middle that extends straight and at a slight angle (B) of about 20° beyond the front face. As a result, the upward deflection of Katoh's fold back end 5 requires bending his rising portion 6, which requires a large force for a given upward deflection because of the 70° angle of his rising portion 6. In applicant's Fig. 6, the beam middle that extends at an angle

(B) of about 20° allows the beam to bend easily. Accordingly, applicant believes that claim 2 should be allowed.

Claim 10 which was rejected on Katoh in view of Ress (4,306,761), has been amended. Claim 10 describes a connector frame and contact similar to that of claim 2. That is, claim 10 describes the contact having an end beam (120 in applicant's Fig. 6) with a beam middle (124) that extends straight and at an angle (B) of about 20° to and beyond the frame front face (22). The beam free end portion (150) extends from beyond the frame front face back into the passage.

As discussed above for claim 2, Katoh's Fig. 6 shows a straight rising portion 6 that extends at 70° to his frame front face, instead of about 20°, which results in much less resiliency in deflection. Ress shows, in his Fig. 2, a contact with a base part 102 that extends at 90° to any frame front end, and a short nose bend 106. Ress does not show a straight beam middle extending beyond the frame at about 20° to a frame front end, to provide an easily bent contact portion.

In view of the above, favorable reconsideration of the application is courteously requested. If the Examiner should wish to discuss the application, he is invited to call Leon D. Rosen at (310) 477-0578.

Respectfully submitted,



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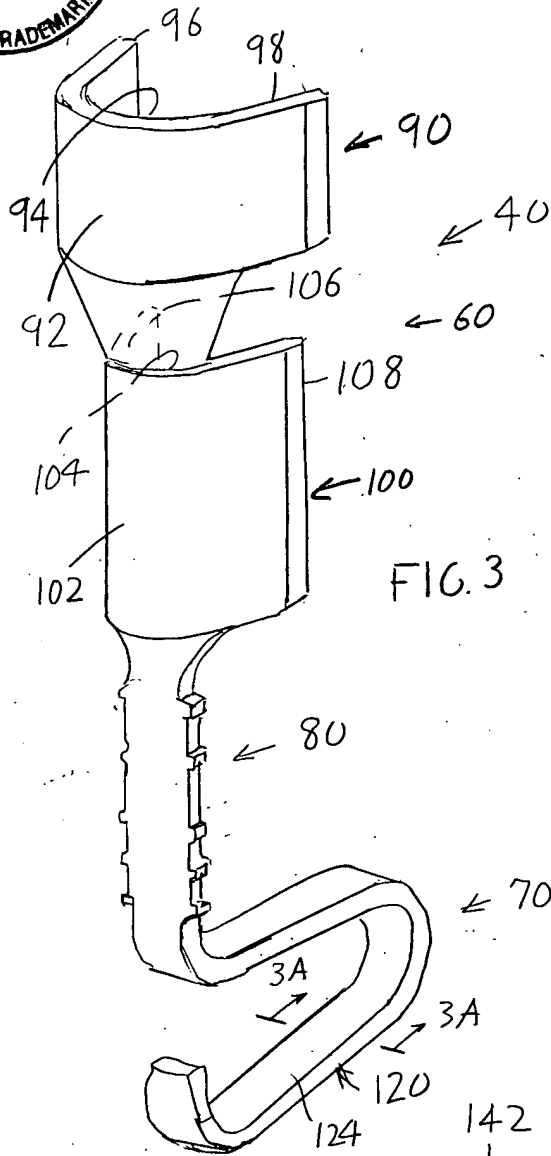


FIG. 3

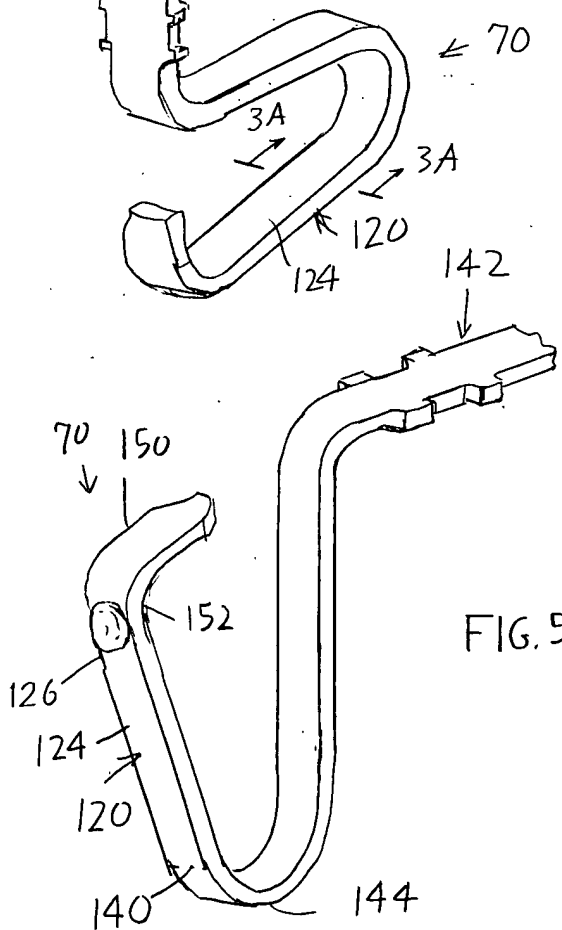


FIG. 5

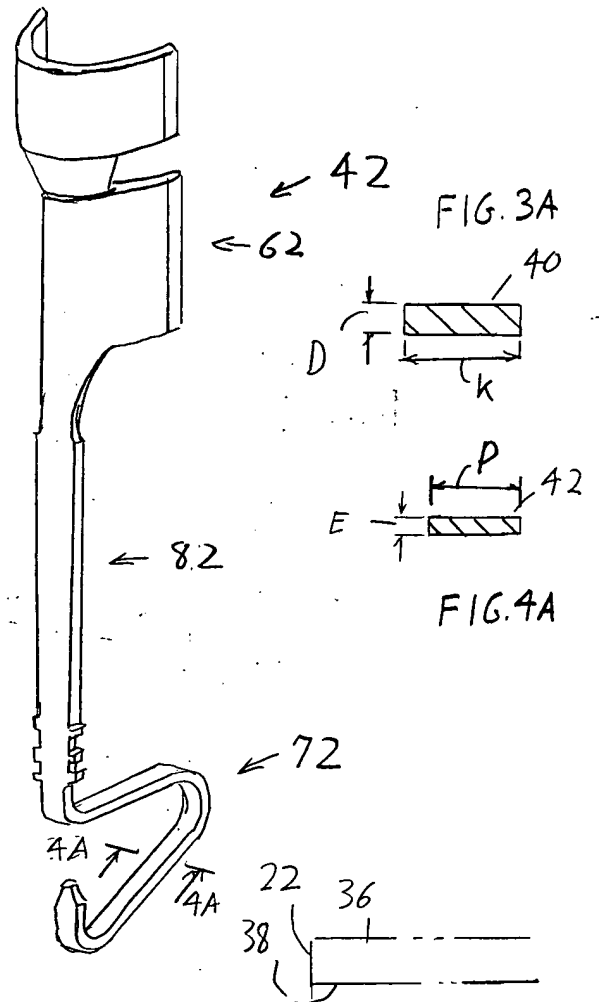


FIG. 4

FIG. 3A

FIG. 4A

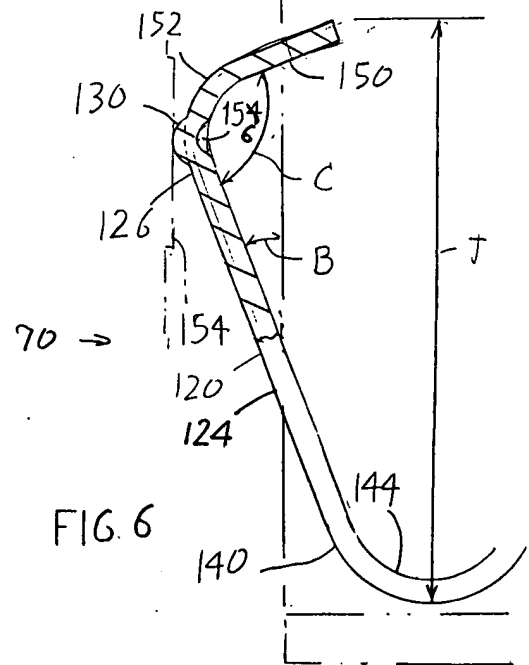


FIG. 6